

Elsevier Research Intelligence

Scopus

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Why Scopus



The Bibliographic Indexing Leader

Scopus is the largest abstract and citation database of peer-reviewed scholarly literature, making it a highly recommended resource for discovering the world of research

Get to know

Scopus

Scopus delivers a comprehensive view on the world of research.

No packages, no add-ons.

One all-inclusive subscription.

High-quality Data



5,000+
Publishers



69+ M
records



12+ M
author profiles



70,000+
affiliation profiles

Serial Titles

22,800+
peer reviewed journals

3,600+
open access titles

280+
trade journals

Books

560+
book series

150,000+
non-serial books

Conferences

100,000+
conference events

8+ million
conference papers



ELSEVIER



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Expert Curation

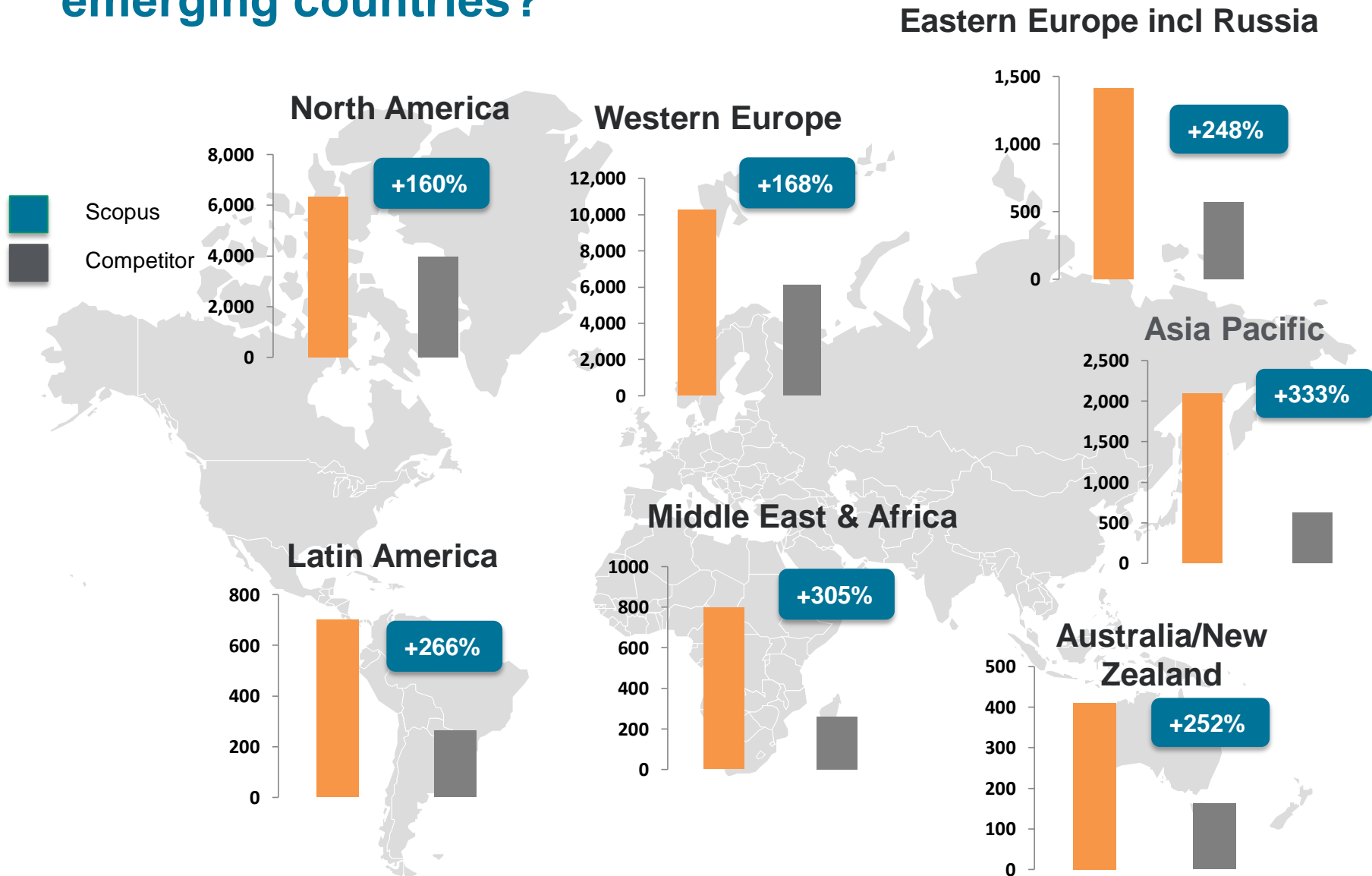


- Titles on Scopus are rigorously reviewed and selected by an independent board of subject matter experts to include 52% of the world's peer-reviewed scholarly literature.

* Source: Ulrich's Web Global Serials Directory, August 1, 2017



What does Scopus's content advantage mean for emerging countries?



Source: Web of Science Real Facts, Web of Science Core Collection title list and Scopus' own data (April 2015)



The Premier Source of Profiles

Scopus includes over 12M author profiles, which are automatically created whenever new data is uploaded. We offer a feedback feature to ensure each author's profile is distinct and kept up-to-date. No other A&I database matches Scopus for precision and recall.

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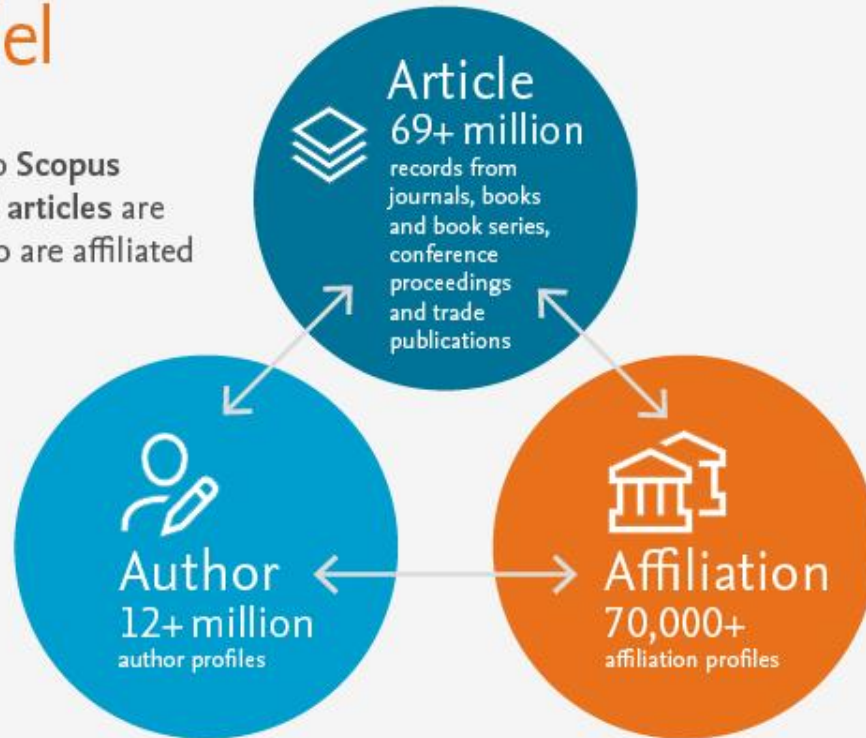
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The Scopus Data Model

The data that goes into Scopus follows the model that **articles** are written by **authors** who are affiliated with **institutions**.

This relational data model means that Scopus can tell you who is researching what in global literature and where they are doing it with higher accuracy than anyone else.





Leading in Quality & Quantity

Scopus continually processes, enriches and makes available a vast quantity of data, with rigorous quality-control standards to maintain the integrity of the database.

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The Gold Standard

Scopus is recognized for its excellence by

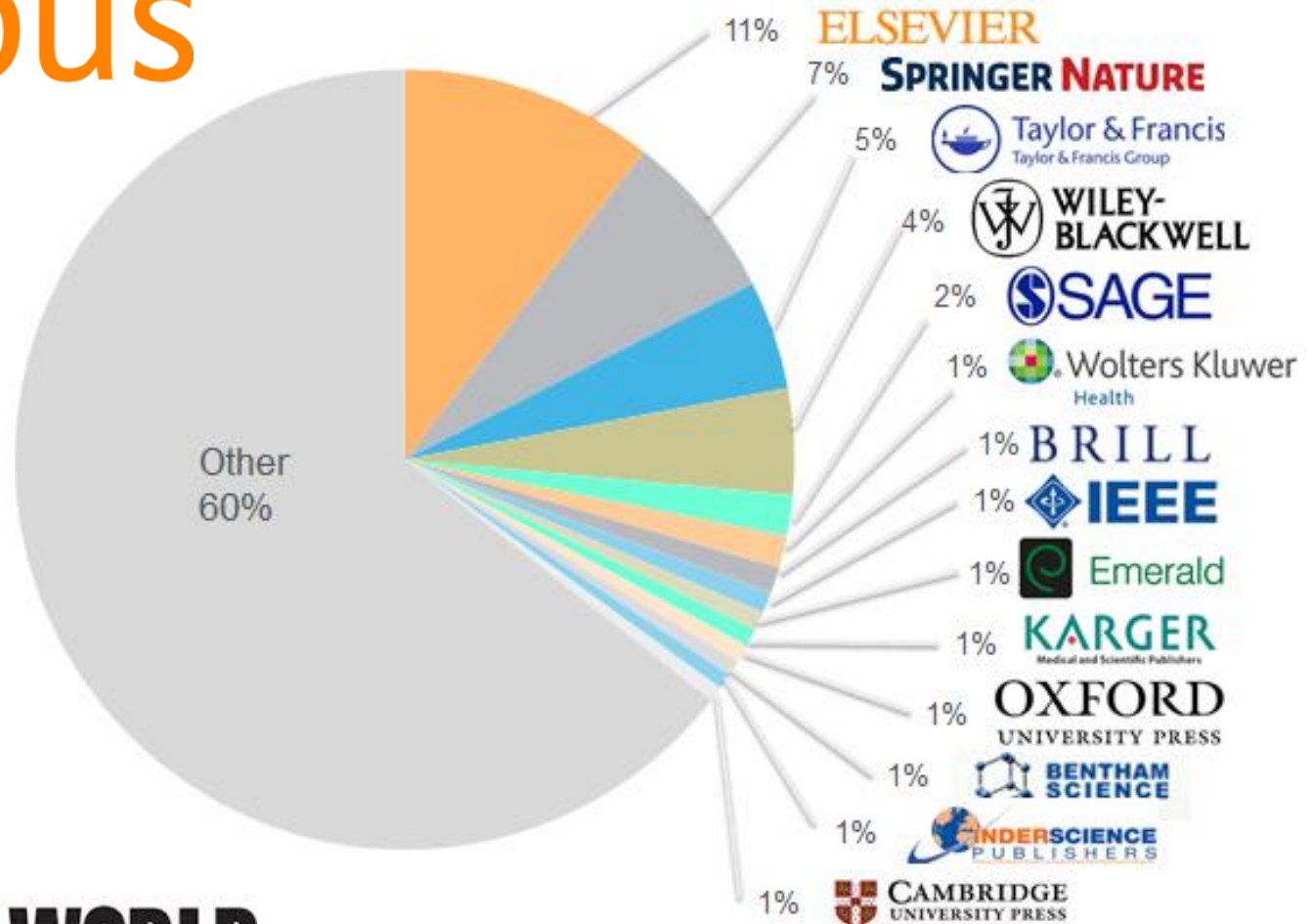
4,000
universities

150
leading research organizations

who continue to choose Scopus for research assessment and evaluation purposes over any other competitor.



Scopus



Scopus Journal evaluation process

EVALUATION PROCESS

Continuous, online title review process for selecting new journals for Scopus coverage

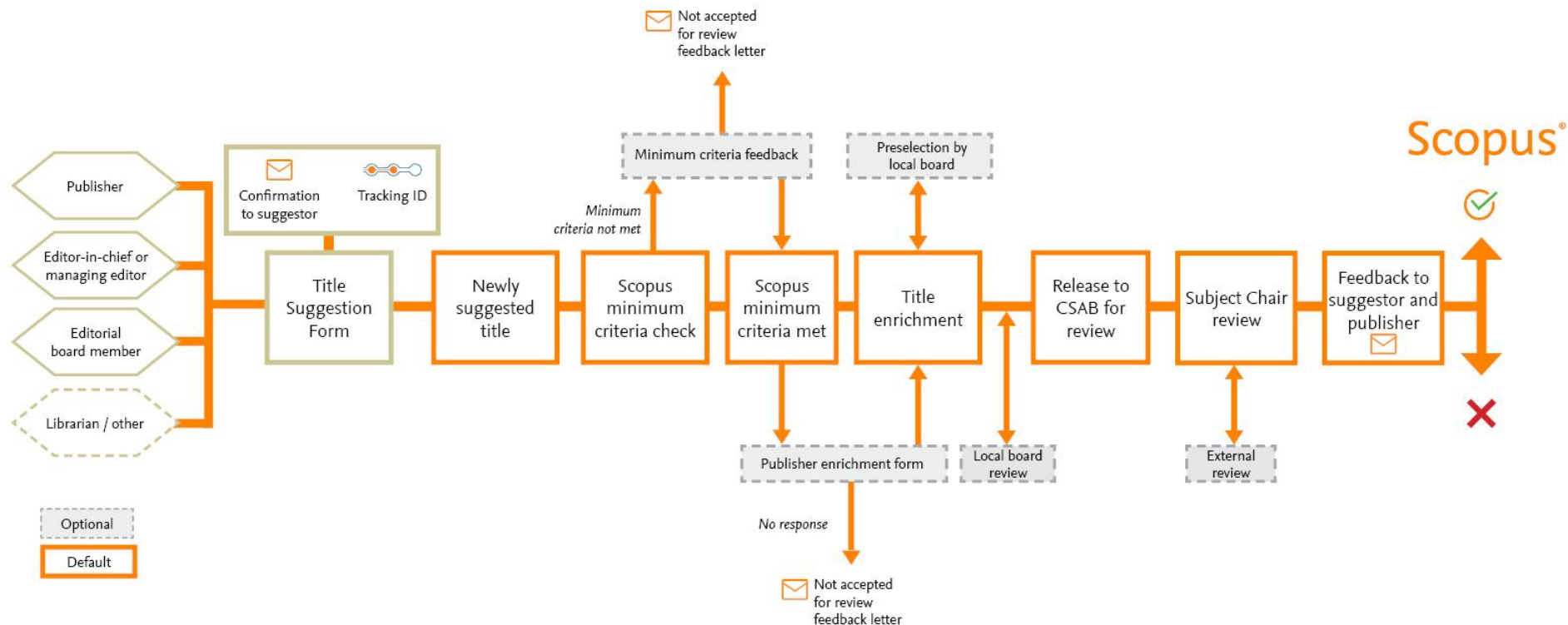
Title suggestion

Title validation

Title enrichment

Review and decision

Communication

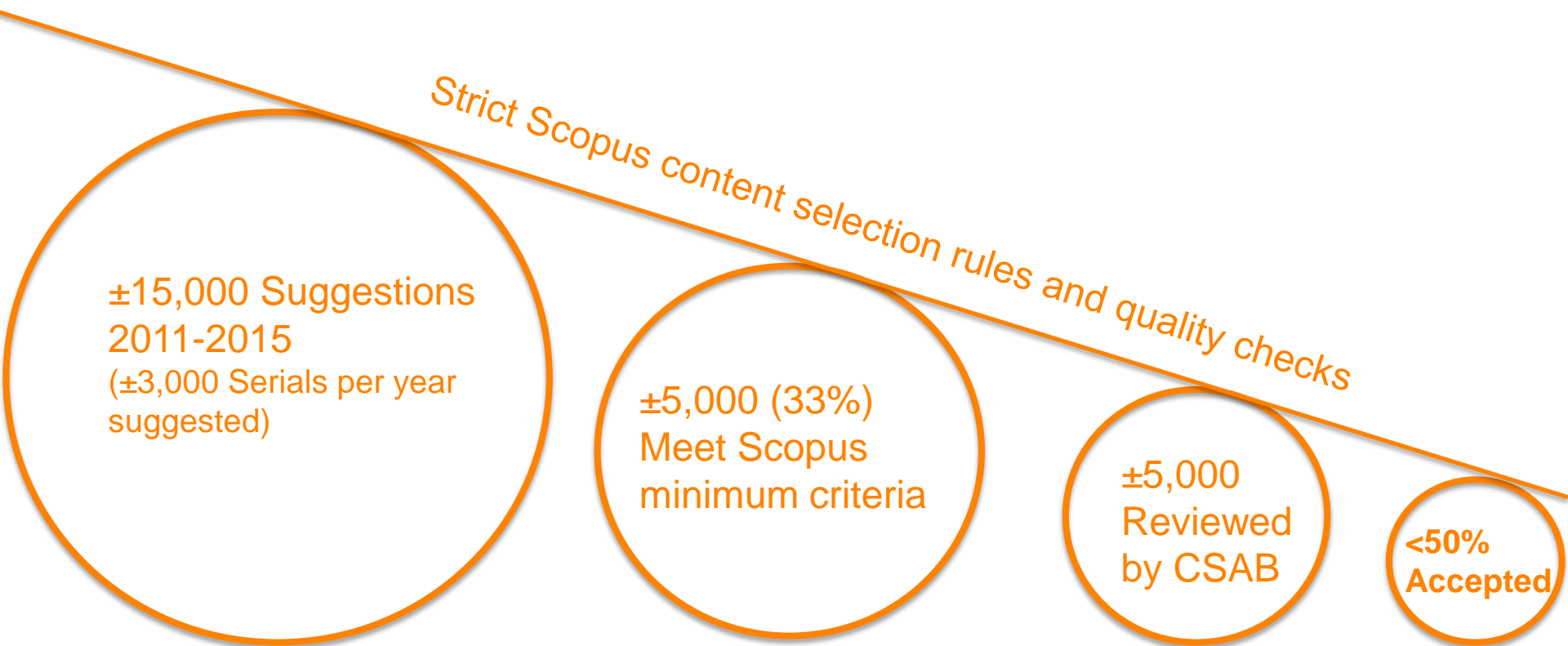


As a primary publisher and information aggregator, Elsevier understands the needs of Authors, Editors and Publishers and provides resources to support the community. Available resources to help journals with successful title review process:

publication ethics resources | FAQs | advisory documents | reviewer comments | editor and publishing services
<https://www.elsevier.com/solutions/scopus/content/content-policy-and-selection> or titlesuggestion@scopus.com

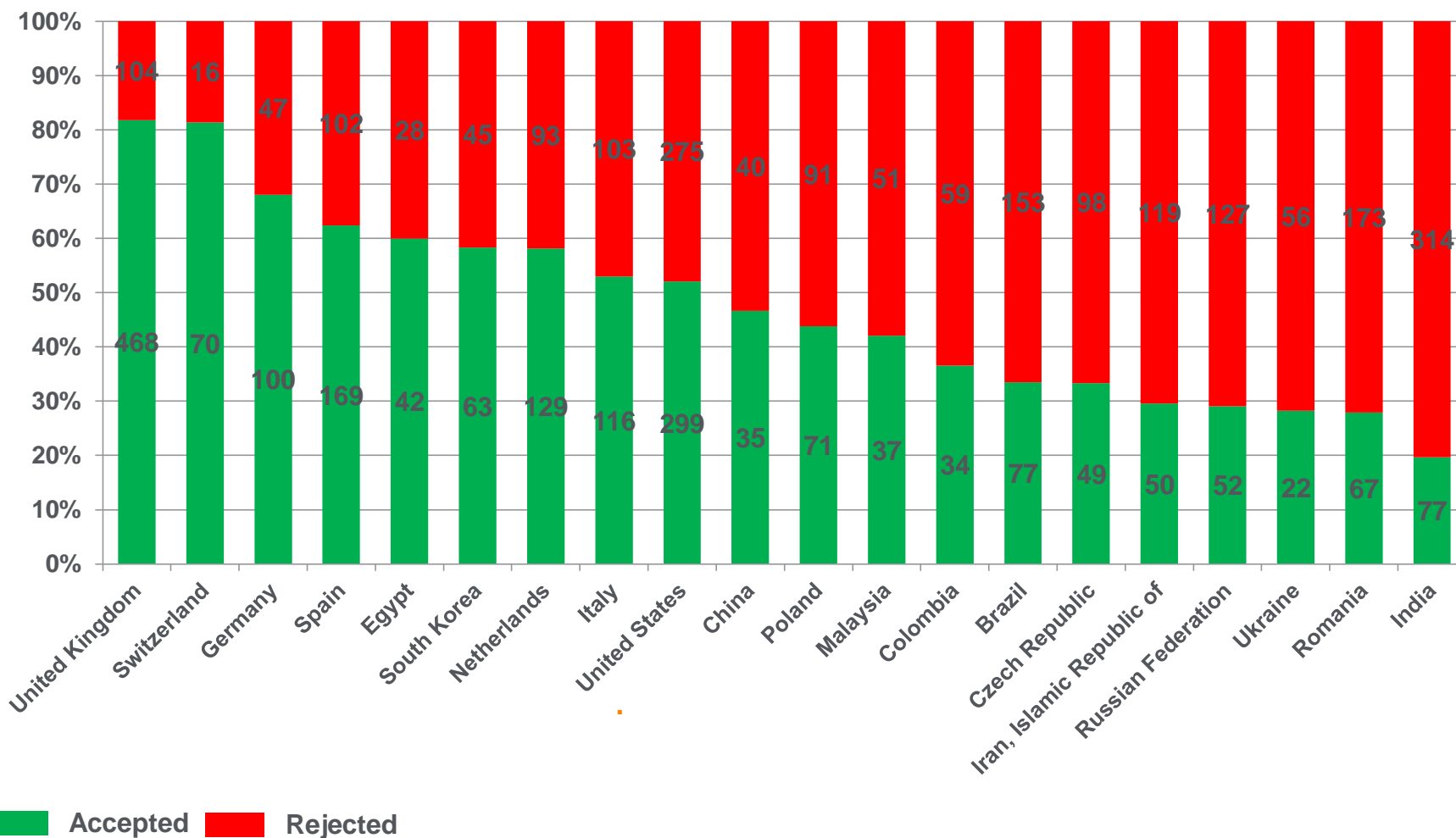
Less than half of the reviewed titles are selected for Scopus coverage

The CSAB is selective and strict on quality: in total 5,411 **titles reviewed** (2011 –2015) of which 2,587 **(48%) accepted** for Scopus



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In total 5,411 titles reviewed (2011 –2015) of which 2,587 (48%) accepted for Scopus
 Title review results from top 20 countries with most titles reviewed in the last 5 years:





Objective, High-quality Resources

All titles on **Scopus** are selected by the independent Content Selection & Advisory Board, which is strict about quality and publishing ethics. Furthermore, we are transparent about our selection policy, criteria and title evaluation process: <https://www.elsevier.com/solutions/scopus/content/content-policy-and-selection>

Get to know

Scopus

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Content Selection & Advisory Board (CSAB)

All journals covered by Scopus are approved by an independent Content Selection & Advisory Board (CSAB). CSAB members are subject experts from all over the world and chosen for their expertise in specific subject areas. Many have (journal) editor experience.



Ongoing content curation of the Scopus base to ensure continuous high quality content

Curation of the full journal base is essential and expected by our customers and users.



Direct feedback from users and stakeholders on poor performing journals

Identification of poor performing journals using metrics and benchmarks

“Radar” to predict journals with outlier performance

Review:

Re-evaluation by the Content Selection & Advisory Board (CSAB)

Curate:

Content Curation

Scopus

Transparent, annual re-evaluation process to ensure titles continue to meet high quality standards

Full Scopus Journal base

Year 1

Analyze full Scopus journal corpus performance based on set metrics & benchmarks

Flag underperforming journals & inform journal publishers

Year 2

Analyze full Scopus journal corpus performance based on set metrics & benchmarks

Flag underperforming journals & inform journal publishers

CSAB review

If a journal underperforms for 2 consecutive years, CSAB will re-evaluate the title based on Scopus selection criteria

Flagged journals for which concerns are raised, CSAB will re-evaluate the title based on Scopus selection criteria

CSAB decision

Continue forward flow

or

Discontinue forward flow



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Rigorous Re-evaluation Process

In the latest reevaluation exercise, **303** under-performing titles were re-evaluated by the Content Selection & Advisory Board



106 (35%) continue to meet **Scopus** criteria and coverage will continue



197 (65%) no longer meet **Scopus** selection criteria and coverage going forward will be discontinued





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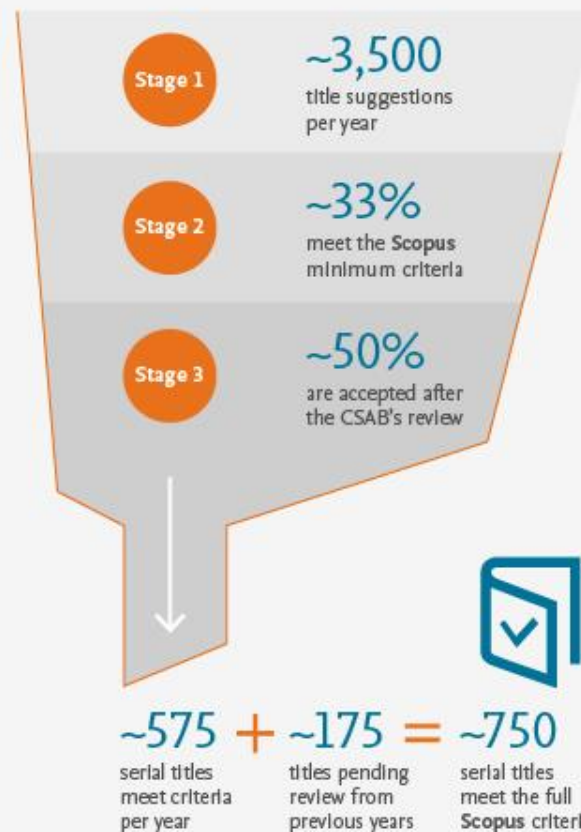
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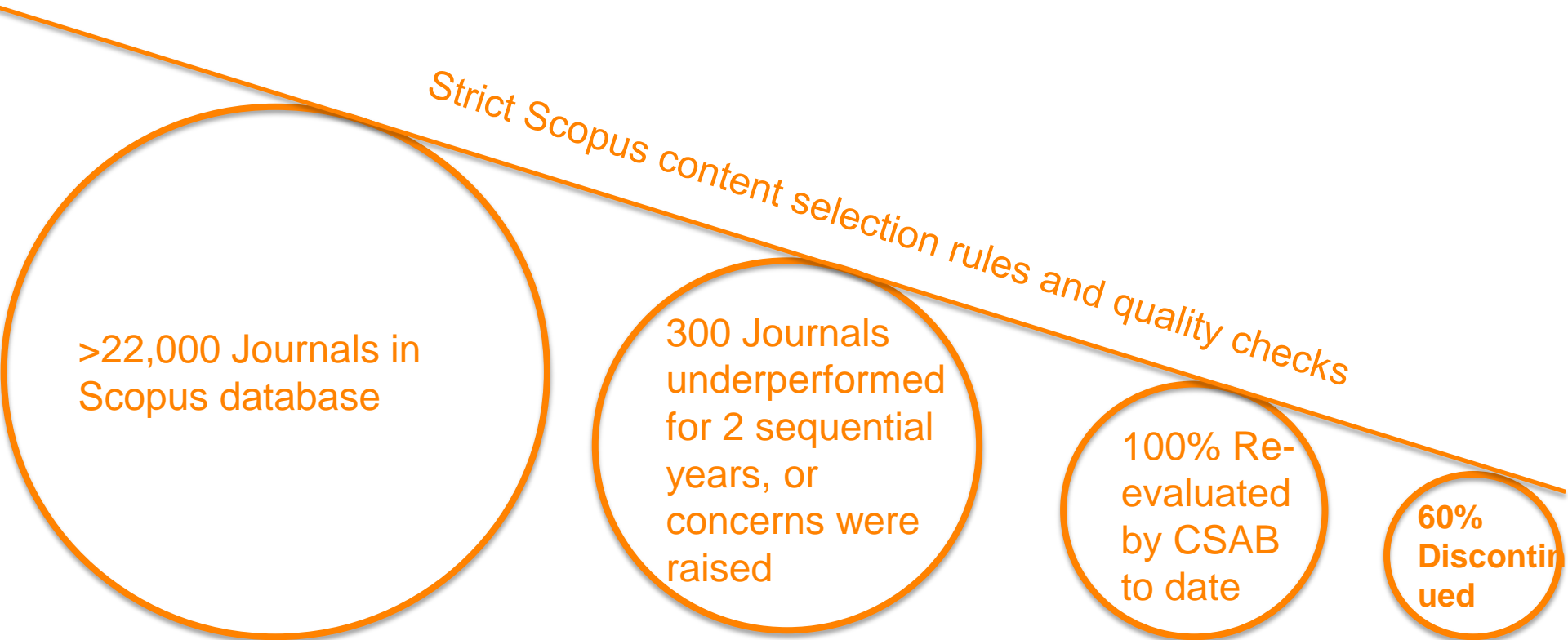
Strict Quality & Ethics Selection Criteria*

The **Scopus** title selection criteria – our set of clear and transparent guidelines, in combination with reviews by our independent Content Selection & Advisory Board – ensure the quality of titles indexed meets consistently high standards.

* 2016 as sample year



2016 Re-evaluation results



- All journal publishers will be informed by Scopus of the Re-evaluation outcome of their journal in December 2016.
- If discontinued = Journal forward flow discontinued per January 1, 2017.

Scopus Journal Selection Criteria

Scopus Journal Selection Criteria

Stage 1:

All titles should meet all minimum criteria in order to be considered for Scopus review:

Peer-review

English
abstracts

Regular
publication

Roman script
references

Pub. ethics
statement

Stage 2:

Eligible titles are reviewed by the Content Selection & Advisory Board according to a combination of 14 quantitative and qualitative selection criteria:

Journal Policy	Quality of Content	Journal Standing	Regularity	Online Availability
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Convincing editorial concept/policy • Type of peer-review • Diversity geographic distribution of editors • Diversity geographic distribution of authors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Academic contribution to the field • Clarity of abstracts • Quality and conformity with stated aims & scope • Readability of articles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Citedness of journal articles in Scopus • Editor standing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No delay in publication schedule 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Content available online • English-language journal home page • Quality of home page

Info:

<http://www.elsevier.com/online-tools/scopus/content-overview>

Questions:

titlesuggestion@scopus.com

Title suggestion form:

<http://suggestor.step.scopus.com/suggestTitle/step1.cfm>

Stage 1: Minimum Criteria to Qualify for Submission

- 2 years minimum
- Peer-reviewed content
- Published on a regular basis (have a ISSN number registered with the International ISSN Centre)
- Relevant and readable for an international audience (for example have references in Roman script and English language abstracts and titles)
- Publication ethics and publication malpractice statement

Stage 2: Key Areas of Evaluation

- Journal Policy
- Quality of Content
- Journal Standing
- Regularity
- Online Availability



Journal Policy

- Aims and scope
- Convincing and relevant to Scopus users?
- Specific or too broad
- Is it clear why an author might want to publish in this journal?
- Example of poor journal policy: publishing all areas of science; Journal of Scientific Information
- Type of peer review
- Diversity in geographical distribution of editors
- Diversity in geographical distribution of authors

What Constitutes “Adequate” Peer Review?

- Single blind peer review
- Double blind peer review
- Open peer review



What is Questionable Peer Review?

- Single review by main editor
- Very fast reviews: 2 weeks or less, guaranteed
- New journal with rapidly increasing volume
- Case of author who served as his own referee



Judging Geographical Diversity

- Editors and Editorial Board: single institution, multiple institutions within one country, regional diversity, global diversity
- Authors: single institution, multiple institutions within one country, regional diversity, global diversity
- Which is best? – depends on the aims and scope and the subject area
- Journal claims to be international; board and authors are regional



Quality of Content

- Academic contribution to the field
- Clarity of abstracts
- Quality of and conformity with stated aims
- Readability of articles
- Check hypotheses and conclusions
- iThenticate - plagiarism check
- Frequent problems: vague, descriptive reports; not adding to extant literature; small sample sizes; not in line with the journal's aims and scope; poor figures and graphs

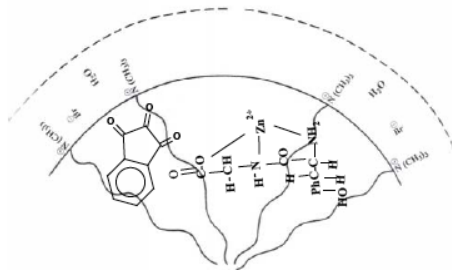
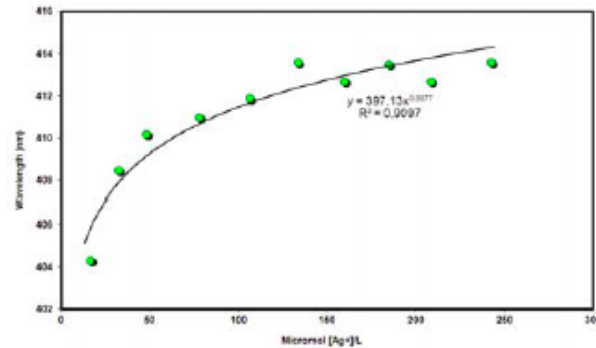
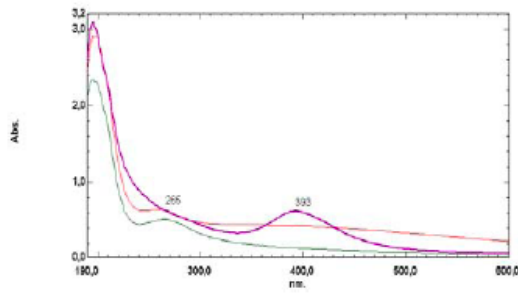
Judging Academic Contribution to the Field

- Good science and scholarship?
- Unique contribution to the existing literature?
- Merely a publication outlet for one faculty?
- Publishing all or most submissions? Acceptance rate?



Figures, Graphs and Grammar

Poor figures, graphs and grammar are strong indicators of low standards for scholarship, peer review and editorial practice.



Specification		Structure of dye
Empirical formula	C ₂₃ H ₂₀ ClN ₂	
Molar mass	364.9179	
Melting point	210 C _o	
Class	F.A.M	
Solubility	Water	

Judging Clarity of Abstracts

- Extremely important for literature searches in Scopus or any database
- Content: Is it a useful and comprehensive summary
- Language: Is the English language understandable and correct (grammar, spelling, etc.)
- Abstracts extremely important for non-English language journals

Journal Standing

- Citedness of journal: percentage of articles cited, number of times individual articles are cited, how recent are the citations
- Editor standing: widely published, widely cited, recognized in their field

Regularity

- How many issues per year
- How many articles per issue
- How many issues delayed
- A journal publishing 2 issues a year with only 6 articles in each issue (5 year publication history; is it viable?; will it last?)

Online Availability

- Usually checked first
- Check content available online
- How many issues per year; articles per issue
- English-language homepage option available?
- Quality of homepage; ease of use, how comprehensive

Final Decision

- Accept or Reject
- Specific reasons given
- Email letter to publisher and editor with specific reasons why publication was accepted or rejected
- If rejected, specific recommendations on how to improve (IMPORTANT) – more similar to a “Revise and Resubmit” than a final “Rejection”
- Reapply in 1, 1.5, 2, 3 or 5 years

Transparent Scopus selection criteria for serial content

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Publication Ethics

- Scopus requires that every journal which accrues to the system must publish a clear and consistent statement of Publication Ethics and Policies in respect of Malpractice, and that each publisher will be held to account for the performance and compliance with this policy.
- Important issues include:
 - Plagiarism
 - Originality
 - Fraud
 - Conflict of Interest

Types of ethics complaints

- Fabrication of data or cases
- Wilful falsification of data
- Plagiarism

FFP

- No ethics approval
- Not admitting missing data
- Ignoring outliers
- No data on side effects
- Gift authorship
- Redundant publication
- Inadequate literature search

QRP

serious

FFP = Falsification, Fabrication, Plagiarism

QRP= Questionable Research Practice

Thank You!

Important Scopus resources to stay up to date:

Site	URL
Scopus Info Site	https://www.elsevier.com/solutions/scopus
Scopus Blog	http://blog.scopus.com
Scopus newsletter	https://communications.elsevier.com/webApp/els_doubleOptInWA?do=0&srv=els_scopus&sid=71&uif=0&uvis=3
Twitter	www.twitter.com/scopus
Facebook	www.facebook.com/elsevierscopus
LinkedIn	https://www.linkedin.com/company/scopus-an-eye-on-global-research
YouTube	https://www.youtube.com/c/ScopusDotCom